

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Claims 1-10. (Cancelled)

Claim 11. (New): A process for purifying waste water containing one or more chlorides, residual acids, residual bases or residual solvents comprising:

- a) acidifying the waste water,
- b) contacting the waste water from step a) with an extracting agent in a manner such that an organic phase and an aqueous phase are generated,
- c) adding an alkaline material to the aqueous phase generated in b) in an amount sufficient to cause that phase to have a pH of from 7 to 13, and
- d) stripping the treated phase from step c) to obtain purified water.

Claim 12. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which the waste water to be treated was generated from an interfacial polycondensation process for production of a polycarbonate or a diphenyl carbonate.

Claim 13. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which carbonates are removed from the waste water to be treated prior to step a).

Claim 14. (New): The process of Claim 13 in which carbonate removal is achieved by acidifying and degassing the waste water.

Claim 15. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which organic compounds are removed by extraction with solvent.

Claim 16. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which the extracting agent used in step b) is a reactive extracting agent.

Claim 17. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which step b) is carried out in a column.

Claim 18. (New): The process of Claim 11 in which at least one phenolic compound is recovered by re-extracting the organic phase generated in step b) with an aqueous alkaline solution to generate a second organic phase and aqueous phase and neutralizing the second aqueous phase.

Claim 19. (New): The process of Claim 18 in which the re-extracting is conducted in one or more mixer-settlers.

Claim 20. (New): The process of Claim 18 in which the re-extracting is conducted as a countercurrent extraction.

Claim 21. (New): The process of Claim 18 in which the re-extracting is conducted in two-stages.